**BHOOMA RAJA ARAVAMUTHAN**

NIH-Oxford and Marshall Scholar 2005

Degree: Michigan State University: B.S., Biochemistry; B.S., Physiology; Bioethics

Specialization, 2005

Research Area: Neuroscience

In 2005, after three years at Michigan State University, Bhooma Aravamuthan received two B.S. degrees in Biochemistry and Physiology. A recipient of a full scholarship to Michigan State University, she graduated with high honors while earning a perfect 4.0 GPA. She has received numerous awards for her outstanding academic achievements including the Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship, Dallas J. Chapin Natural Science Scholarship, Ronald E. McNair Outstanding Natural Science Research Scholarship, and a Professional Assistantship which provided a stipend for carrying out her research. Bhooma was inspired to become a medical researcher as early as her senior year in high school when she helped run clinical trials at the Borgess Health Alliance Hospital in her hometown of Kalamazoo, MI. Since then she has had several highly successful research experiences including cardiology clinical trial research, structural biology and enzyme kinetics work in an academic lab, analytical chemistry research in an industrial lab, and environmental and animal behavior studies conducted in Antarctica. Her work in cardiology has allowed her to coauthor a paper in the Journal of Invasive Cardiology on thrombosis-resistant stents. Despite her busy academic and research schedules, she also found time to be actively involved in hospital fundraising, Indian cultural and hip-hop dance performance and choreography, student recruitment for MSU, the undergraduate student government, Asian Pacific American awareness efforts, and a non-profit organization geared toward getting K-12 children excited about science via hands-on demonstrations. She states that her goal is “to pursue a career as a physician scientist and study the causative mechanisms of neurodegenerative diseases, with the ultimate goal of carrying treatments developed in her lab to clinical trial and then to bedside.